

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 08566 202106Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-03 NSF-01 COME-00 PM-04 /021 W
----- 071885 /66

P 202042Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0108

INFO CNO WASH DC PRIORITY

USCINCSO QUARRY HTS CZ PRIORITY

DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY WASH DC PRIORITY

COMSC WASH DC PRIORITY

OCEANAV ALEX PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 8566

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SENV, PLOS, PN

SUBJECT: HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY VICINITY PANAMA

REF: (A) STATE 303824; (B) STATE 288495

1. GOP WAS INFORMED BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE ON NOVEMBER 30TH OF THE IMPENDING REPLACEMENT OF USNS BARTLETT BY THE USNS CHAUVENET. THIS MOST RECENT NOTE, AS WAS THE CASE WHEN THE USNS BARTLETT WAS NAMED AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE USNS HARKNESS, WAS INFORMATIVE IN NATURE AND DID NOT REQUIRE A REPLY.

2. NO OBJECTION HAS BEEN RAISED TO THIS MOST RECENT NOTE. EMBASSY THEREFORE CONCLUDES THAT GOP DOES NOT OBJECT TO THE CONTINUED CONDUCT OF THE SURVEYS BY THE USNS CHAUVENET.

3. WE DO NOT DEEM IT PRUDENT TO SEEK AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE FROM THE GOP. SUCH AN ACTION WOULD AT A MINIMUM SIMPLY DELAY MATTERS INORDINATELY. IT COULD ESCALATE THE MATTER AND POSSIBLY PROVOKE A NEGATIVE RESPONSE BY SOME OFFICIAL NOT FULLY FAMILIAR WITH THE SITUATION. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THOSE AGENCIES OF GOP WITH COMPETENCE AND SUBSTANTIVE INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT ARE
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FULLY APPRISED OF OUR CURRENT PLANS AND GOP HAS GIVEN ITS FORMAL APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE TO THE PROJECT AS A WHOLE. WE CONSIDER THIS SUFFICIENT FOR US TO PROCEED WITH IT.

JORDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Authority: coburnhl
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